9-32 p.m. MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the Hon. the Minister for Labour and Industries wants to reply tomorrow. If it is so, let the Hon. the Leader of the House move a motion that the next Demand be taken up. We shall proceed with it and then adjourn the House."

II.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER RULE 22 (3) OF THE ASSEMBLY RULES *re* CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF VOTING OF DEMANDS

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

> ' *That under rule* 22 (3) *the next Demand—Demand XVIII—Agriculture and Fisheries—be taken up now.*' "

MR. SPEAKER :—" To-morrow, after question hour, the Hon. the Minister for Labour and Industries will reply to the debate on the Demand—Labour including Factories. I think the motion moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House is acceptable to all the hon. Members. The question is—

> ' That under rule 22 (3) the next Demand—Demand XVIII—Agriculture and Fisheries—be taken up now.' "

The motion was put and carried.

I.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1954–55—*cont.*

(2) DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

> ' *That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 2,23,33,400 *under Demand XVIII—Agriculture and Fisheries.*'

" Sir, I need not point out that this is a composite grant for two departments, viz., Agriculture and Fisheries. The Demand for Agriculture is Rs. 194 lakhs and that for Fisheries is Rs. 29 lakhs. The Revised Estimate for the present Madras State for the second half of 1953–54 was Rs. 124 lakhs. The estimate for 1954–55 is thus nearly double that amount. This is by no means extravagant considering the fact that Agriculture and Fisheries are the two basic industries of the people. The Demand for Agriculture works out to about 4·2 per cent of the total expenditure on Revenue account. A sum of less than Rs. 200 lakhs for Agriculture for this State in which the net area of crops grown is about 19 million acres cannot be considered high. The per acre expenditure on agriculture works out to about a rupee. If you take population into consideration, the per capita expenditure is about 8 annas. I am well aware that there may be critics who will consider that the Demand is inadequate. To them I would explain, Sir, that this Demand does